Pa. Still No. 1 Hunting State

Anyone having the slightest doubt about Pennsylvania's unchallenged position as the No. 1 hunting state in the nation should take a good look at the US Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife recent report on hunting license sales for fiscal year 1967.

Actually, the license sale figures in this report embrace Pennsylvania's 1966 67 license year. The 1967-68 license year will end August 31 and final compilation will be completed

But Game Commission officials, although elated that the federal bureau again supports. Pennsylvania's claim to being the top hunting state, wain that storm clouds already on the horizon could wash away many advances already made by hunters in the Commonwealth

The federal report breaks down hunting license sales into five categories Pennsylvania led by a wide margin in three of these, and was just barely edged out of first place in the other two, because separate licenses, permits and tags are not required for the various species in Pennsylvania, as contrasted to numerous other States

There were more paid hunting license holders in Pennsylvania than any other state, the Keystone State led the nation in total sales of hunting licenses, and Pennsylvania's income from the sale of hunting licenses was greater than any other state's

In 1967 there were 995,190 paid hunting license holders in Pennsylvania, an increase of almost 40,000 over 1966 (A paid license holder is one individual regardless of the number of licenses he may purchase) Total license sales in Pennsylvania came to 1467,776, an increase of almost 173 000 over the previous year Pennsylvania's total income from the sale of these licenses was \$6,219 112 05

In commenting on the federal report Game Commission Executive Director Glenn L. Bowers said. "Pennsylvania offers sports men some of the best diversified hunting recreation in America, and we intend to keep it that way if at all possible

"But despite the glowing importance of hunting, both in the economy of the state and as a wholesome outdoor recreation there are forces at work which could very well ruin our program and wipe out many of the vast strides made in conservation over the past few decades"

Bowers said, "Hunting is big business in Pennsylvania We are number one, and over the years our sportsmen have paid the bill to bring about our top ranking But if the proponents of strict gun control are permitted to succeed in their efforts, there will be a definite destruction of interest in hunting as a sport

Unrealistic and unreasonable gun control measures now being advocated in some quarters will only serve to diminish active participation in hunting by sportsmen who will refuse to submit to further regimentation envisioned by anti-gun forces."

Bowers concluded, 'Diminished interest and participation in hunting could well wreck our carefully constructed conservation foundation"

American Expression

John Hancock was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence This act made the use of "John Hancock", meaning signature on expression in America.

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50	ADAMS	18%
51	YORK	13%
91	YORK	11%
	96 64 50	96 YORK 64 FRANKLIN 50 ADAMS 51 YORK

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